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Solution by A. V. Richardson, Bishop's College, Lennoxville, Quebec, Canada.

We may indicate the subtraction as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} a & b & c & d & e \\ e & d & c & b & a \\ \hline x & y & m & n & p \end{array}$$

where the letters denote the digits of the numbers. Since the first number is the larger, either $a > e$ or $a = e$ and $b > d$. The digits of the difference will be as in the following table.

	x	y	m	n	p
$a > e,\ b > d$	$a - e$	$b - d - 1$	9	$9 + d - b$	$10 + e - a$
$b = d$	$a - e - 1$	9	9	9	$10 + e - a$
$b < d$	$a - e - 1$	$10 + b - d$	0	$d - b - 1$	$10 + e - a$
$a = e,\ b > d$	0	$b - d - 1$	9	$10 + d - b$	0

From the table we may formulate the following rule:

$$x = 10 - p \quad \text{and} \quad y = 8 - n$$

except

(1) when $p = 0$, and then $x = 0$ and $y = 9 - n$;
(2) when $m = 0$, and then $x = 9 - p$, and $y = 9 - n$;
(3) when $m = n = 9$, $p \neq 0$, and then $x = 9 - p$ and $y = 9$.

Also solved by T. M. Blakslee, H. N. Carlton, A. M. Harding, L. C. Mathewson, C. J. Stowell, F. L. Wilmer.

NOTES AND NEWS.

It is hoped that readers of the Monthly will coöperate in contributing to the general interest of this department by sending items to R. W. Burgess, Brown University, Providence, R. I.

In the temporary assignment of Mr. E. B. Mode to duties connected with University administration, the following have been appointed temporary instructors in the College of Liberal Arts, Boston University: C. E. Haigler of the Rehabilitation Division, Franklin Union; J. A. Marsh of the English High School, Boston; and R. W. Gardner of the Eastern Nazarene College, Wollaston.

At the University of Michigan, Professor W. H. Butts has retired after serving twenty-four years as instructor and professor of mathematics and fourteen years as assistant dean of the Colleges of Engineering and Architecture. He has been appointed professor emeritus.

Mr. L. J. Comrie, M.A., F.R.A.S., of New Zealand and St. John's College, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England, is in residence at the Sproul Observatory of Swarthmore College as Research Assistant for the coming year. Mr. Comrie is the holder of the Isaac Newton Studentship awarded in April 1921 at Cambridge University for research in Astronomy. He has been working under Professor A. S. Eddington for three years and has made a special study of occultations of stars by planets. He will continue this study and in particular the publications of predictions of these occultations. He was successful in organizing a Computing Section of the British Astronomical Association, and also edited the first edition of that Association's *Observer's Handbook*, published in 1922. He will participate in the researches upon the parallaxes of stars which is the prime work of the Sproul Observatory.

ROBERT WHEELER WILLSON, professor of astronomy, emeritus, at Harvard University since 1919, died November 1, 1922. He was born at Roxbury, Mass., July 30, 1853. He received the degree of A.B. from Harvard in 1873 and of Ph.D. from the University of Würzburg in 1886. He was an assistant in the Argentine National Observatory in 1873 and in the Harvard Observatory in 1874; tutor in physics at Harvard 1875–1881; assistant astronomer at the Winchester Observatory, Yale, 1881–1884; then instructor in astronomy and physics 1891–1899, assistant professor of astronomy 1899, and professor of astronomy 1903, at Harvard. He was the author of *Laboratory Astronomy,* Boston, 1901 (enlarged edition, 1905), and *Times of Sunrise and Sunset in the United States,* Cambridge, 1908.

THOMAS MARCUS BLAKSLEE, born at Harpersville, N. Y., December 12, 1854, died at Ames, Iowa, January 30, 1923. He received the degree of Ph.B. from Colgate University in 1874 and of Ph.D. from Yale University in 1880. He pursued his mathematical studies further in the Johns Hopkins and Chicago Universities, and for a short time in the University of Göttingen. For the greater part of his life he held the chair of mathematics in Des Moines College, Des Moines, Iowa. He has been a member of the Association since September, 1919. During the latter years of his life he was an interested and frequent contributor to the Problems and Solutions Department of this MONTHLY; also his article on "The solution of an equation by a frame" appeared in *1911,* 159–162. He was the author of *Direction as a Quantity. Directed Quantity and Kindred Subjects,* Des Moines, 1887 (19 pages); and of *Academic Trigonometry. Plane and Spherical,* Boston, Ginn, 1888 (30 pages).

The following resolutions upon the death of Professor Halsted were adopted at the April meeting of the Rocky Mountain Section (see *1922,* 198):

By the death of our associate and fellow worker, George Bruce Halsted, March 19, 1922, in New York City, the Rocky Mountain Section of The Mathematical Association of America publicly recognizes that Colorado has lost a distinguished citizen; and the whole country, a mathematician and philosopher and logician, of international standing. Dr. Halsted was a member of the leading scientific societies, a contributor to scientific journals, and the author of well-known mathematical books; and was on terms of personal friendship with mathematicians in various countries. We, in Colorado, knew him well, and gave him freely of our love and admiration. We know that his was a life of service to learning, and particularly to mathematics, the purest of all the sciences. Here, in Greeley, Colorado, his later home, we, the members of The Association, attending the session, pay to him our sincere respects for his scholarship, his productive labors, and his sterling qualities.

The United States has withdrawn its invitation for the International Mathematical Congress to be held "in New York or its vicinity" in 1924. The invitation from Canada will probably be accepted. It is now expected that most of its meetings will be held in Montreal before it adjourns to Toronto for the sessions of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

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